

Chronology of Governor's Support for Baxter Healthcare in Cleveland:

2004 3rd Special Session:

Baxter Healthcare was included in the Governor's initial call for the 3rd special session of 2004, and the Legislature ultimately agreed to \$10M (\$8M loan, \$2M grant) for upgrades.

2005 Regular Session:

The Governor has consistently supported fulfilling the state's multi-year commitment to the company. Governor was supportive of legislation in the 2005 regular session that fulfilled the \$10M commitment for this year to the company.

The House legislation (HB 1720) that included Baxter Healthcare also included tens of millions of dollars for projects that had not been vetted by the appropriate state agencies, including MDA.

The Senate did a strike-all to HB 1720 (which was the original pork bond bill) and included Momentum, Northrop Grumman, and Baxter in the strike-all (no pork). The House declined to concur in the Senate amendment to HB 1720 on a 69-50 vote. The bill then died in conference, after the House offered a ridiculous proposal (read: pork) minutes before conference deadline that the Senate conferees declined.

The Governor's position on this has been consistent: economic development projects should receive due diligence to protect the state's taxpayers. This is especially the case since MS Beef Processors.

The Governor has never said that Baxter was an unworthy project---he has objected to the pork that the House has added on to vital projects like Baxter and Northrop Grumman.

2005 Second Special Session:

The Governor said, both publicly and in a letter to legislators, that he would expand the call of the session to deal with additional bond measures only after Momentum Mississippi, our state's economic development initiative, passed the Legislature. The House failed to pass Momentum, so the Governor did not expand the call to include other measures. However, he has consistently stated that the state should honor its commitment not only to Baxter but also to Northrop Grumman.

2005 Third Special Session:

Fulfilling his word, the Governor expanded the call of the session to include those projects that both the House and Senate agreed upon after Momentum MS passed both houses (finally) in the 3rd special session. One of those select projects that was included in the expanded call was funding for the upgrades at the Baxter plant in Cleveland.

Both the House and the Senate twice passed bond authorization for Baxter in the 3rd special session. The House bills died in the Senate, the Senate bills both died in the House Ways and Means Committee, of which Mr. Moak is a member. When it became clear that the two houses were not going to agree on an overall package, the Senate sent the House a bill with only assistance for Baxter included. This was a last-ditch effort on the part of the Senate to have the most timely project addressed. The House killed the stand-alone Baxter bill in Ways and Means. Mr. Moak voted against it in committee.

2005 4th Special Session:

Once again, the Governor demonstrated his support for the upgrades at Baxter by including this project, and only this project, in his call for the 4th special session

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